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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

CF4795

SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY,

Of Quebec.

WITH

A LIST OF ITS OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

INSTITUTED ON THE 30TH DAY OF OCTOBER,

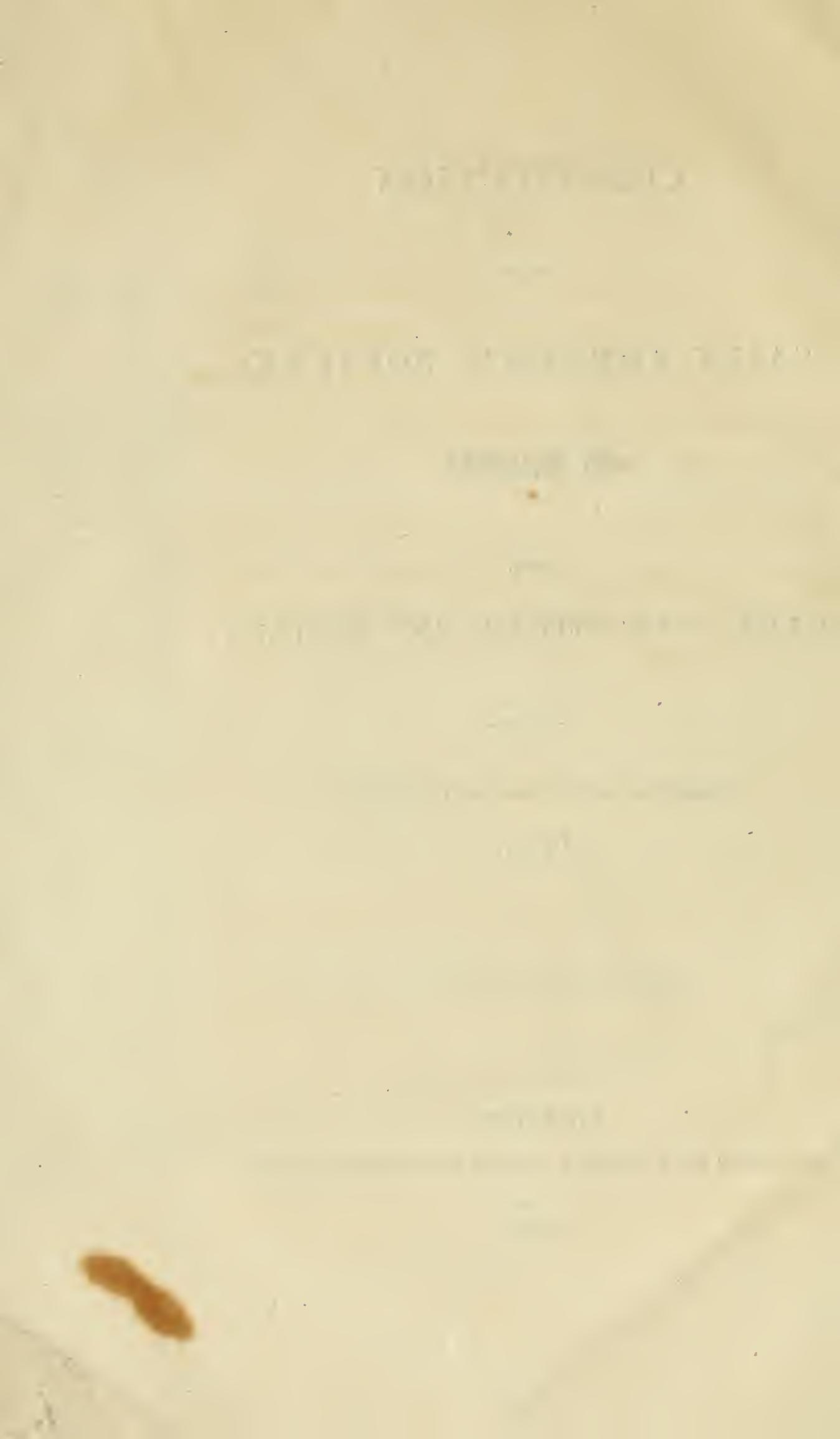
1835.

QUEBEC:

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1836.

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PREFACE.

A number of Gentlemen, natives of Scotland and of Scottish origin, residing in Quebec, desirous of establishing a St. Andrew's Society, inserted a notice in the public papers, requesting that persons friendly to the formation of such a Society would meet at the Albion Hotel, on Friday, the 9th October, 1835.

A numerous meeting of persons of Scottish origin or descent assembled accordingly on the day appointed, when it was resolved, "That it is expedient to form a Society in this city, to "be called *The Saint Andrew's Society of Quebec.*" A Committee of nine was appointed to draft a Constitution for the said Society, to report to a General Meeting to be held in the Albion Hotel on the 30th of that month. The following gentlemen were named as the Committee: The Hon. J. STEWART, the Rev. D. WILKIE, Messrs. J. NEILSON, T. A. YOUNG, A. PATERSON, J. BRUCE, J. BURNS, R. H. GAIRDNER, and A. SIMPSON.

At the General Meeting held on the 30th October, the Constitution as reported by the Committee, was adopted, with a few amendments. The Society was formed from that day; and Friday, the 13th November, was fixed upon for the election of the Officers.

OFFICE BEARERS OF THE SOCIETY,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE 30TH NOVEMBER, 1836.

[*Elected 13th November, 1835.*]

PRESIDENT :
ANDREW PATERSON.

VICE-PRESIDENTS :
JOHN NEILSON, | HON. JOHN STEWART.

MANAGERS :
JAMES DEAN,
GEORGE BLACK,
RONALD MACLELLAN,
ALLAN GILMOUR,
LEWIS JAMES M'NAIR,
ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, | HON. FR. WARD PRIMROSE,
SAMUEL NEILSON,
ROBERT POPE ROSS,
DONALD FRASER,
THOMAS AINSLIE YOUNG.

CHAPLAINS :
REV. JOHN CLUGSTON, | REV. DANIEL WILKIE.

JOSEPH MORRIN, M. D., *Senior Physician.*
JAMES DOUGLAS, M. D., *Junior Physician.*

ALEXANDER SIMPSON, *Treasurer.*

JOHN BRUCE, *Secretary.*
JAMES GILLESPIE, *Assistant Secretary.*

QUARTERLY MEETINGS :

THE FIRST FRIDAY IN FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST, AND NOVEMBER.

INTRODUCTION.

THE advantages of a Society such as that of which the following pages detail the Constitution, are fitted to commend it to the approbation of every lover of his country and of his countrymen. Its principal object is to supply the necessities of Scottish emigrants or settlers, in and about Quebec, whose circumstances call for assistance. Cases are incessantly occurring in which an appeal is made to the sympathy and liberality of the community, by those whom sickness or some other visitation of Providence has reduced to destitution. It must be soothing to a Scotchman in such circumstances, if he has retained any degree of the feeling of independence for which Scotchmen have been represented as remarkable, to find, in a land far from the home of his fathers, an Association of his countrymen, whose benevolent design is to afford relief without lessening that feeling, to furnish information and to administer council, which, on the one hand, may lead to the means of gaining an honest livelihood, and, on the other, warn him of the dangers to which, from his peculiar circumstances, he may be exposed.

Such an institution, when properly supported and under judicious management, is furnished with the means not only of dispensing aid in the most unexceptionable way and of detecting imposition, but of rendering itself useful in other and higher respects. Besides, while it is the minister of good to others, it both avows and strengthens the attachment of its members to "the soil that gave them birth, recalls the scenes of former days, with the affecting recollections which nature delights to retain and reluctantly quits." This there need be no hesitation in seeking to avow and strengthen; for that "philanthropy which affects to feel alike for every part of mankind is false and spurious—that alone is genuine which glows with a warmth proportioned to the nearness of its objects."

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF QUEBEC.

ARTICLE I.

OF THE NAME AND SEAL OF THE SOCIETY.

The Society shall be named "THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF QUEBEC," and shall have a common Seal, with its name engraved thereon, around the Arms of Scotland, with the National Motto, "*Nemo me impune lacesset.*"

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

The Society is instituted for the purpose of affording relief and advice to natives of Scotland and their descendants who may stand in need thereof, and with the view of promoting union among all classes of Scotchmen and those of Scotch origin in Canada.

ARTICLE III.

OF RESIDENT MEMBERS.

None but Scotchmen, and the children, grand-children, and great-grand-children of natives of Scotland, or sons of Members, shall be admitted as Resident Members of the Society. When any person is to be proposed for admission as a Resident Member, the Member proposing shall give to the Secretary at a Meeting of the Society, a written notification thereof, mentioning the name of the candidate, his occupation, and the place of his nativity, according to the form in the Appendix, which notification shall be read, and at the next then ensuing Meeting he may be elected. The election shall be by ballot, and the

consent of three-fourths of the Members present shall be necessary to the admission of a candidate. None but Resident Members shall be entitled to vote in the election or other business of the Society, and none shall be considered as Resident Members until they shall have paid the fee of admission, and subscribed the Constitution.

ARTICLE IV.

OF HONORARY MEMBERS.

Natives of Scotland, or children and grand-children of natives of Scotland, or of Resident Members, and who may be strangers to the city, may be proposed and ballotted for as Honorary Members, on the same evening; and they, as well as the Resident Members, shall be entitled to a certificate of their admission, authenticated with the Seal of the Society, and signed by the President and Secretary. None shall be admitted as Honorary Members who reside within the County of Quebec.

ARTICLE V.

OF THE OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

A President, two Vice-Presidents, eleven Managers, two Chaplains, one or more Physicians, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an Assistant Secretary, shall be annually chosen from among the Resident Members at the Preparatory Meeting hereafter mentioned, who shall be installed, and shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices, on the Festival of St. Andrew next ensuing. The election shall be by ballot, and a plurality of votes shall decide. The President shall be first chosen and duly announced to the Meeting, and afterwards the rest of the Officers shall be ballotted for separately. The Officers of the same description shall rank according to a plurality of votes.

ARTICLE VI.

OF THE STATED MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

The Society shall hold four Quarterly Meetings every year, viz.:—on the first Friday in February, May, August, and November, the last of which shall be called “the meeting preparatory to the Anniversary.” The President, or in his absence,

the officer highest in rank who may be present, shall appoint the place of meeting, and the Secretary shall, at his desire, give due notice thereof to the Resident Members, and thirteen shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.—At all meetings the names of the Members present shall be recorded.

ARTICLE VII.

OF SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

The President, or in his absence, the officer highest in rank who may be in the city, shall, when any emergency occurs which in his opinion may render it expedient, or upon application made for that purpose by the Board of Managers, or by the Standing Committee hereafter mentioned, call a Special Meeting of the Society. The Secretary shall give due notice to the Resident Members, twenty-one of whom shall be required to constitute a quorum. Special Meetings shall be competent to the transaction of any business that may come before them, except when it is otherwise prescribed in this Constitution; but the consent of two-thirds of the Members present shall be necessary to constitute a vote, and the yeas and nays on each question shall be recorded.

ARTICLE VIII.

OF THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

As the benevolent views of the Society will be greatly promoted by a social intercourse among the Members, the Society shall hold an Anniversary Meeting, and such Members, as may be thereunto disposed, shall dine together on St. Andrew's Day; and the Members shall on that day appear with a St. Andrew's Cross, or a Thistle displayed on the left breast. When St. Andrew's Day happens on Sunday, the first day of December shall be observed as the Festival.

ARTICLE IX.

OF THE DUTY OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President shall, when he is present, preside in all Meetings of the Society, preserve order, put the question, and declare the decision. He shall call a Special Meeting of the Society when he shall judge it proper, or when applied to for that pur-

pose by the Board of Managers, or the Standing Committee hereafter mentioned, and he shall appoint the place of all meetings. He shall likewise sign all orders on the Treasurer from the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE X.

OF THE DUTY OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The duties specified in the foregoing article shall, in the absence of the President, devolve on the First Vice-President, and, in the absence of both, on the Second Vice-President, only that in regard to signing orders on the Treasurer, each shall have equal powers with the President.

ARTICLE XI.

OF THE DUTY OF THE MANAGERS.

The Managers shall constitute a Board for dispensing the bounty of the Society, and for carrying into effect the various objects pointed out by the Constitution; and for this purpose they shall meet at least once a month, and five shall be necessary to form a quorum. They shall decide on the applications of claimants; and if a majority of those present consent to grant relief, they shall recommend, at their meetings only, the claimants to the President and Vice-Presidents, either of whom is authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the sum specified in the recommendation of the Managers. Provided that no more than twelve dollars be given to one head of a family in one year, unless it be otherwise determined at a meeting of the Society; and provided also that the whole sum thus dispensed by the Managers and by the Society in one year do not exceed the revenue of the Society for that year, unless it be done agreeably to the mode specified in the Eighteenth Article. And none shall be objects of the Society's bounty but such Resident Members thereof as may become indigent, and poor natives of Scotland, and children and grand-children of natives of Scotland or of Resident Members of the Society, unless it shall be otherwise determined at a meeting of the Society. The Managers shall likewise recommend to the attention of the Chaplains and Physicians such persons as they suppose might be benefited by their assistance. At all meetings of the Society they shall, under the direction of the Presiding Officer, preserve order and decorum, regulate the ceremonial, and attend to the collection and payment of the expenses.

ARTICLE XII.

OF THE DUTY OF THE CHAPLAINS.

It shall be the duty of the Chaplains to perform the religious duties required at the meetings of the Society; by their counsel and advice, to promote harmony and good will among the members, and to visit such sick and distressed persons as may be recommended to their attention by the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XIII.

OF THE DUTY OF THE PHYSICIANS.

It shall be the duty of the Physicians to give their advice and assistance to such sick or maimed persons as may be recommended to their care by the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XIV.

OF THE DUTY OF THE TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall have the custody of the money and other property of the Society. He shall keep regular accounts of his receipts and expenditures, in suitable books provided for that purpose. He shall, at each quarterly meeting, present an abstract of his accounts, stating the sum received and expended since the previous meeting, and likewise the whole amount received and expended since the previous anniversary festival, and specifying the cash in hand, and what may become due before the next meeting, that the Society may, if they think proper, take order for the disposition thereof. He shall enter on his books each sum paid by him in consequence of the recommendation of the Board of Managers, the name of the President or Vice-President who signed the order, and the name of the person to whom the money was paid.

ARTICLE XV.

OF THE DUTY OF THE SECRETARY.

The Secretary shall have the custody of all the records and journals of the Society, and shall make a regular entry of all the proceedings at each meeting. He shall keep a list of the Members of the Society, and an account of the fees and dues

that accrue, shall collect the same, and take receipts when he makes payment to the Treasurer. He shall summon the resident Members to all meetings directed in this Constitution, or called by the Presiding Officer. He shall, on the order of the Society, erase from the list of Members the names of all such persons as by the terms of this Constitution shall have forfeited their title to membership, making report thereof at the next meeting. He shall appoint a messenger to the Society for delivering notifications of the time and place of meetings, and a suitable person for collecting dues, under his direction, for whose fidelity he shall be responsible. He shall also have the custody of the seal and badges of the Society. In the absence of the Secretary, the duties above specified shall devolve on the Assistant Secretary.

ARTICLE XVI.

OF THE DEATH, RESIGNATION, OR REMOVAL OF OFFICERS.

In case of the death, resignation, or removal of any of the Officers during the year for which they were elected, the Society shall, at the next meeting, choose others in their room, to serve for the remaining part of the year.

ARTICLE XVII.

OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Chaplains, the Physicians, the Treasurer, and the Secretary, together with four other the Members of the Committee of Management, shall form a Sub or Standing Committee, whose duty it shall be to pay attention to the various persons having claims on the benevolence of this Society, especially to Emigrants on their arrival from Scotland; to enquire into their treatment during the passage, and, if necessary, into their circumstances and views after their landing; to assist them with their advice; to recommend such of them as they may think proper to the Board of Managers for pecuniary relief, and, in cases of immediate exigency, to administer such relief as they may deem needful,—submitting all their proceedings to the monthly meeting of the Committee of Managers for their sanction and approval, the consent of not less than three of the Members composing the Standing Committee shall be required to warrant in any instance the dispensation of relief.

ARTICLE XVIII.

OF THE REGULATION OF THE OFFICE UNDER THE DIRECTION
OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE.

For the furtherance of the objects of the Society, there shall be an office opened under the direction of the Managing Committee, in some central situation, as convenient as can be procured to the landing place of Emigrants, and an Agent appointed to attend at such times and on such conditions as the Committee of Managers may prescribe, for the purpose of giving information, advice, or relief, or of extending such assistance of any kind to Scottish Emigrants or poor residents as the Society may be enabled to provide. It shall be the duty of the Standing Committee to superintend diligently the conduct of the business of this Office, to appoint some of their Members to attend daily or weekly, at fixed hours, during the season of navigation, for the purpose of advising and aiding the Emigrant.

In the same Office shall be kept, by the Agent, a Register of all applications to the Society for Domestic Servants, Labourers, Gardeners, Farmers, and Mechanics, as also of the names and qualifications of Scottish Emigrants in want of employment, together with a list of Lands and Real Property for sale in this Province.

ARTICLE XIX.

OF THE COMMITTEE OF ACCOUNTS AND THE COMMITTEE OF
INSTALMENT.

A Committee of Accounts, consisting of five members, not being Officers, shall be appointed annually at the Preparatory Meeting, whose duty it shall be to examine the books and accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary, and to make report to the Society on St. Andrew's Day ensuing. At the same meeting a Committee of two members shall be appointed, who shall, on the Anniversary Festival, present and instal the Officers elected for the ensuing year. These Committees, and all Special Committees, shall be nominated by the Presiding Officer, and appointed by vote of the Society.

ARTICLE XX.

OF THE FUNDS OF THE SOCIETY.

If at any time there should be more money in the hands of the Treasurer than the exigencies of the poor require, the same shall be loaned out at interest, or otherwise disposed of, as may be determined on by the Board of Managers, with the concurrence of the President and Vice-Presidents. It shall not be competent for any Meeting to direct the disposition or appropriation of any part of the Society's stock previously loaned out or vested in public securities or in real property, unless the President or one of the Vice-Presidents, and at least thirty of the Resident Members, be present.

ARTICLE XXI.

OF THE FEES AND DUES TO BE PAID TO THE SOCIETY.

Resident Members shall, upon their subscribing the Constitution, pay a sum of not less than Five Dollars as the Fee of Admission, and shall contribute Two Dollars annually, to be paid on the first day of May in each and every year.

ARTICLE XXII.

OF LIFE MEMBERS.

On the payment by any Member of a sum not less than Five Pounds, the same shall be accepted in lieu of any further subscription or contribution; and the sum thus paid, as well as any donation to the Society, shall be invested in some permanent fund, the interest only of which shall be placed among the distributable funds of the Society.

ARTICLE XXIII.

OF DELINQUENCY IN PAYING DUES.

All the Members of the Society shall, within one month after their admission, subscribe the Constitution, otherwise they shall be considered as having forfeited their title to membership; and in future, if any Member, unless he be in indigent circumstances, of which the Society shall judge, shall refuse or neglect to pay his dues for one year after they have accrued, provided

he has been called upon by the Secretary or Collector, he shall be considered as having withdrawn himself from the Society, and the Secretary shall erase his name from the list of Members.

ARTICLE XXIV.

OF MEMBERS ABSENT FROM THE COUNTRY.

Any Member being absent more than a year at one time, may, if he think fit, decline paying his subscription for the time he has been absent; and on his stating in writing to the Treasurer the time of his absence, the charge standing against him in the Treasurer's Books shall be annulled.

ARTICLE XXV.

OF RESIDENT MEMBERS WHO REMOVE OUT OF THE COUNTRY.

Resident Members who remove out of the country, may, upon application, have their names transferred from the list of Resident to that of Honorary Members, and shall not afterwards be considered as Resident Members, unless proposed and elected as in the first instance; but such persons, if re-elected, shall not be subject to the Admission Fee; and when Honorary Members come to reside within the limits of the country, and may desire to become Resident Members, they shall be admitted on paying the Admission Fee.

ARTICLE XXVI.

OF THE ORDER TO BE OBSERVED AT MEETINGS.

At each Meeting of the Society, after the Presiding Officer shall have taken the chair, the Minutes of the previous Meeting shall be read by the Secretary. Good order and decorum shall be observed by all the Members; and whoever offends in this respect, shall be liable to be reprimanded by the Presiding Officer.

ARTICLE XXVII.

OF OBEDIENCE TO THE RULES OF THE SOCIETY.

The Members of this Society shall faithfully observe and conform to all the Rules and Regulations that shall be made by

the Society and entered in the books thereof, on pain of being dismissed from it, and having their names erased from the list of Members.

ARTICLE XXVIII.

OF THE MODE OF ALTERING THE CONSTITUTION.

The Constitution shall not be altered, except at a Preparatory Meeting, at which the President or one of the Vice-Presidents, and not less than fifty Resident Members are present, the consent of three-fourths of whom shall be necessary to ratify an amendment; and all proposed amendments shall be submitted to the consideration of the Society at the previous Meeting.

APPENDIX.

FORM TO BE SIGNED BY ALL APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION, PRIOR TO ADMISSION.

I, [John Black,] of [Quebec, Printer,] a native of [Glasgow,] in the County of [Lanark,]—or, [the son of Robert Black, of Quebec, a native of Irvine, in the County of Ayr, Brewer,]—now aged [forty] years, declare that I am desirous of becoming a Member of the Saint Andrew's Society of Quebec; and, if elected, I will abide by and obey all and every the Rules and Regulations of the said Society.

Proposed by [William Lane.]

Seconded by [James Bell.]

